

True Friendship

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Outside, one sunny, college day
 I looked up to the sky
 "Will you be my friend?" I asked
 Between my Lord and I

"I'm having problems with your slaves;
 They violate Your Path.
 I've been trying to stay away
 What may incur Your Wrath.

"The thing is, Lord, I really don't
 Mean to judge at all.
 But I'm just staggered by what they do--
 I'm afraid, through them, I'll fall.

"How can I possibly improve myself
 When all I have are these
 "Friends" who really only want
 To laugh, and play, and tease?"

During my self pity I
 Suppressed a voice inside
 Suddenly, I fell silent and
 Was told of my own pride.

I heard a voice within me call,
 "Oh slave of God Above!
 Did your Lord not demand from you
 To treat others with love?

"Your Prophet, peace upon him, taught
 That to division will fall prey
 The one who stands up for their faith
 Towards the Final Day!"

I heard an angel whisper then,
 "Daughter of Adam, don't encroach
 Knowledge on others because
 It's about how you approach!

"Instead of critiquing them
 You should notice inside of you
 A weakness--a failure to coexist
 While still practicing what's true

"Don't look down upon your siblings in faith
 Because they probably are
 Further along than you regarding
 The lives they've lived so far

So before you decide to shun someone
 Ask yourself, "Am I
 Going to regret their not
 Praying on me when I die?"

"Can I change what I've done so far?"
 I pleaded in silent shame.
 "I never intended to hurt anyone
 I have only me to blame!

“You promised, God, to answer me
When upon you I do call;
So please, help me tear down this
Horrible, self-built wall!”

The angel’s voice replied to me,
“God answers; *you* must hear!
Listen to these Believers
And demonstrate you find them dear!”

I vowed that day to try my best
To find a painful cure
To rid myself of hypocrisy
To, amidst other slaves, be pure.

And strangely, I felt doors open
Showing me my wrong
All slaves of God will return to Him
And to Him we do belong!

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